

**STAFF SUMMARY SHEET**

	TO	ACTION	SIGNATURE (Surname), GRADE AND DATE		TO	ACTION	SIGNATURE (Surname), GRADE AND DATE
1	DFMI Dept Head	Approve	<i>[Signature]</i> LT COL, 12 Mar 13	6			
2	DFER	Review	<i>[Signature]</i> LT COL, 17 Mar 13	7		<i>[Signature]</i>	
3	DFMI	Action		8			
4				9			
5				10			

SURNAME OF ACTION OFFICER AND GRADE Dr Talbot, AD-24	SYMBOL DFMI	PHONE 333-9425	TYPIST'S INITIALS bt	SUSPENSE DATE
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SUBJECT Clearance of Material for Public Release	DATE 20120308
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**SUMMARY**

1. **PURPOSE:** To provide security and policy review of the attached documents prior to public release.

2. **BACKGROUND:** Cadets Joshua Huckabee, Gordan Lang, Joseph Shields, Branden Shoenfeld, and Vincent Jovene were Military and Strategic Studies majors enrolled in our department's MSS 498 capstone course and their essays in this issue of Airman Scholar Journal represent their senior thesis work from Spring 2012. The final article is a book review by Cadet Edward Boylan, an MSS student in a senior core course. Note that the first article in this issue (Thomas Drohan, "Core Relevance at the Air Force Academy") was previously cleared for public release for a conference presentation in 2011.

Titles: 2) "Active Learning and the Rising Generation of Air Force Officers," 3) "Hands on Keyboard: Considerations for a Cyber Weapons School," 4) "Sleazing the Ultimate High Ground: Weaponizing Space," 5) "An Airplane for all Seasons," 6) "Personnel Recovery: CV-22 Expansion Pack;" and 7) a book review of "War Made New."

Issue overview: Cadet Joshua Huckabee argues for improved simulation scenarios in the Cadet Battle Lab, DFMI's premier networked classroom. Cadet Gordan Lang follows with his proposal for a joint military cyber school to train the rising generation of cyber warriors. Cadet Joseph Shields argues the merits of weaponizing space. Cadet Brandon Shoenfeld argues that the Air Force should purchase the A-29 Super Tucano over the AT-6 Texan II built by a US-based company, and interestingly, the Air Force just announced the A-29 as it's choice, validating Brandon's argument. Cadet Vincent Jovene also make an airframe argument for Combat Search and Rescue, advocating the purchase of CV-22 Osprey's to augment the HH-50 rescue fleet. Lastly, our book review by Cadet Edward Boylan covers a primary text used in MSS 416, in which he was enrolled as a Humanities major.

Release Information: release for web-based publication in the e-journal entitled: Airman Scholar Journal (ASJ)

Recommended Distribution Statement: Distribution A, Approved for public release, distribution unlimited.

3. **RECOMMENDATION:** Sign Approve/Review blocks above indicating documents are suitable for public release. Suitability is based solely on the document being unclassified, not jeopardizing DOD interests, nor inaccurately portraying official policy.

*[Signature]*  
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# Book Review

*War Made New: Weapons, Warriors, and the Making of the Modern World*, by Max Boot

REVIEWED BY EDWARD BOYLAN

Max Boot's work, *War Made New: Weapons, Warriors, and the Making of the Modern World* is a cumulative composition of the development and history of warfare. The text begins with the gunpowder revolution, progresses

using major historical benchmarks and more to look at the future, drawing the reader into the environment of the time before stating his case, and finally, by basing his claims upon historical facts available from the appropriate era.

lines his main points. According to the article, "Review of War Made New," Boot "provides the background and detailed descriptions of actual combat of several campaigns to demonstrate the effect of intelligent adoption of the new technologies produced in each of the four revolutions."<sup>3</sup> By drawing the reader in, Boot is able to narrate freely while still engaging and maintaining interest. From the defeat of the Spanish Armada to the German Blitzkrieg of WWII, Boot uses numerous examples of one adversary being able to effectively adapt new technology or strategy to become victorious over equal, and sometimes superior, adversaries. Boot's storytelling combined with factual accounts from various battles across history are accompanied by easy to understand concepts that almost always universally apply, even in different centuries of warfare.

*Max Boot's work "argues that the past five centuries of history have been marked not by gradual change in how we fight but instead by four revolutions in military technology—and that the nations who have successfully mastered these revolutions have gained the power to redraw the map of the world."*

through the industrial revolution and beyond to today's information revolution, and concludes with how the past affects the present along with a peek into potential future military innovations and their impacts. Boot begins each of his chapters with an account of a particular battle in history. For example, his first chapter, "Sail and Shot: The Spanish Armada," opens with the Spanish catching their first glimpse of the English coastline on 29 July 1588.<sup>1</sup> His method of interweaving storytelling into factual accounts supports the compelling arguments, which builds upon the overall theme of the book in each of his chapters and makes for a captivating read throughout his text. *War Made New* is an all-encompassing overview of the development of military history, breaking the last five hundred years into the four revolutions mentioned above,

According to the Council on Foreign Relations, Max Boot's work "argues that the past five centuries of history have been marked not by gradual change in how we fight but instead by four revolutions in military technology—and that the nations who have successfully mastered these revolutions have gained the power to redraw the map of the world."<sup>2</sup> Boot's use of these breaks in the past five centuries serves to bring attention to four major technological revolutions that he argues serve as the organizing standard for military history. Boot's breakup of the past makes an interesting read as he concludes historical battles were won or lost not only by having technology, but knowing how to properly harness it.

Boot's practice of opening each chapter with a captivating intro draws the reader in as he out-

From his book, *The Iraq Wars and America's Military Revolution*, author Keith L. Shimko includes Boot's sentiments about the US's easy campaign against Saddam Hussein in Iraq during 2003. As Boot works through his chapters from the renaissance to modern military history, he uses the volley of available information to further substantiate his thoughts on the

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for Full-Spectrum Personnel Recovery," *Air & Space Power Journal* 25, no. 3 (Fall 2011): 42.

18 Ibid, 42.

19 Ibid, 44.

20 Ibid, 37.

21 Ibid, 44.

22 Aviat Aircraft, "Husky A-1C," Aviat Aircraft Inc, <http://www.aviataircraft.com/hspecs.html>

23 US Department of Commerce, "DeHavilland Twin Otter (DHC-6),"

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, [http://www.aoc.noaa.gov/aircraft\\_otter.htm](http://www.aoc.noaa.gov/aircraft_otter.htm)

24 Porter, "Air Force Fixed-Wing Rescue," 43.

25 Ibid, 39.

26 Dornier Seaplane Company, "Direct Operating Costs," Dornier Seaplane Company, <http://www.dornierseaplane.com/content/direct-operating-costs>

27 Porter, "Air Force Fixed-Wing Rescue," 39.

28 The US is fearful of experiencing another Mogadishu. The Black Hawk Down incident and capture of CWO Mike Durant scared the US out of Somalia in the early 1990s and the US has been apprehensive of committing ground forces to any volatile military operations since then. A Modern Cuban Missile Crisis?



**Chief of Air Staff's Reading List 2013** In honour of DFMI's recently-departed RAF exchange officer, we are including the RAF Chief's reading list for the upcoming year--any title listed here would make a great book review in ASJ--the editor...

### Airpower Studies

1. Colin Gray, *Airpower for Strategic Effect*, Air University Press, 2012.

2. John Andreas Olsen, *Global Air Power*, Potomac Books, Inc., 2011.

### Historical Analysis

3. Antony Beevor, *The Second World War*, W&N, 2012.

4. Dave Sloggett, *The RAF's Air War in Libya: New Conflicts in the Era of Austerity*, Pen & Sword Books, Ltd., 2012.



### Leadership and the Moral Component

5. Peter Gray, *The Leadership, Direction and Legitimacy of the RAF Bomber Offensive from Inception to 1945*, Continuum, 2012.

6. Andrew Mackay and Steve Tatham, *Behavioural Conflict: Why Understanding People and Their Motives Will Prove Decisive in Future Conflicts*, Military Studies Press, 2011.

7. Stephen Bungay, *The Art of Action: How Leaders Close the Gaps Between Plans, Actions and Results*, Nicholas Brealey Publ., 2010.

### Future Operating Environment

8. Hew Strachan and Sibylle Scheipers, *The Changing Character of War*, Oxford Univ. Press, 2011.

9. Donald Sull, *The Upside of Turbulence: Seizing an Opportunity in an Uncertain World*, Collins Business, 2009.

10. Joseph Nye, *The Future of Power: And Use in the Twenty-First Century*, Public Affairs, 2012

need for militaries to not only adapt new technology, but also to employ it effectively. Shimko quotes Boot's text directly to comment on the US's rapid race to Baghdad in the Second Iraqi War,

The eminent military historian John Keegan... remarked that in taking Baghdad in less than three weeks "the Americans achieved a pace of advance unprecedented in history"... Victor Davis Hanson agreed that "by any fair standard of even the most dazzling charges in military history, the Germans in the Ardennes in the spring of 1940, or Patton's romp in July of 1944, the . . . race to Baghdad [was] unprecedented in its speed and daring and in the lightness of its casualties." Max Boot was the more succinct: "No army had ever travelled faster with fewer casualties."<sup>4</sup>

Unfortunately, some argue that Boot's use of facts and figures sometimes takes shortcuts. According to one author writing in a "Review of War Made New," the "eminent historian William McNeill, criticized the book because he felt it omitted important events and failed to analyze crucial non-military aspects of the events it did treat."<sup>5</sup> Though pointing out flaws in Boot's work, these can be countered by his opening chapter statement: "I will not attempt to challenge...a number of prominent recent works that have sought to explain the [entire] course of human development.... Rather than attempting to supplant them, this book will supplement them by highlighting the importance of certain vital military developments in the making of the modern world."<sup>6</sup> What Boot is saying here is that he does not mean to blot out longer, more detailed works on the subject, but to add to them. So despite the criticism, I believe that Boot successfully defends himself by stating he is not looking to write

an all-encompassing cumulative history of the events surrounding all the examples in his depictions of famous battles. By stating this limitation up front, Boot achieves his end goal. He does so by demonstrating that throughout history, nations that have evolved and correctly realized the uses and limits of their military technology have achieved victory over their adversaries.

In conclusion, *War Made New* is an easy to read survey of key advancements in military history. Boot's maintains the reader's interest breaking the last five hundred years of history into four sections, divided by major historical benchmarks, allowing the reader to clearly understand the background of the battles he is describing. In addition to his framing, he also paints a clear picture for the reader by narrating individual battles, describing them from the perspective of someone actually there, before explaining the specific actions of the battle. In this way he achieves a novel-esque style of writing. This technique only gets more intriguing as his book progresses towards the recent military actions of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Max Boot's work serves as a basic overview of military history for the last five hundred years, and does so with clear validity. Boot makes persuasive arguments about how technology may have won the battle, but only the consistent adaptation and trial and error method of learning boundaries of technology win in the end. *War Made New* is an excellent read for anyone looking to see how the US military got where it is today and even catch a glimpse of where it may be headed

in the future.

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1 Max Boot, *War Made New: Weapons, Warriors, and the Making of the Modern World*. New York, NY: Gotham, 2007.

2 *War Made New*, Review. Council on Foreign Relations. Web. 13 Apr. 2011, <http://www.cfr.org/information-warfare/war-made-new/p10313>.

3 "Review of War Made New: Weapons, Warriors, and the Making of the Modern World, by Max Boot." *Rhapsody in Books*. Wordpress.com, 4 Apr. 2011, <http://rhapsodyinbooks.wordpress.com/2011/04/11/review-of-%E2%80%9Cwar-made-new-weapons-warriors-and-the-making-of-the-modern-world%E2%80%9D-by-max-boot/>

4 Keith L. Shimko, *The Iraq Wars and America's Military Revolution*. New York, NY: Cambridge Univ. Press, 2010.

5 "Review of War Made New..."

6 Boot, 10.

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**Man's flight through life is sustained by the power of his knowledge.**